

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

sub B₁ 1. An apparatus for controlling display of an electrical program guide, comprising:

a broadcast program information storage means for storing, as broadcast program information, the information relative to broadcast programs extracted from predetermined positions of video signals;

a recorded program information storage means for storing, as recorded program information, the information relative to the broadcast programs recorded in recording media; and

a display control means capable of displaying, as an electrical program guide to provide the program-related information, the program information relative to both of the broadcast programs and the recorded programs on the basis of the broadcast program information stored in said broadcast program storage means and also the recorded program information stored in said recorded program information storage means.

sub H₂ 2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said display control means is capable of displaying ^{simultaneously} as an electrical program guide, at least a program information area in the form of a window to display the program information, a command area in the form of a window to

display items for selecting a manipulation command relative to said program guide, and an input area in the form of a window to display items for inputting a required parameter corresponding to the selected manipulation command.

3. The apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising a manipulation means for controlling required manipulation on the displayed picture of said electrical program guide, said manipulation means comprising:

a first mode change manipulator for selectively changing the operation to an electrical program guide display mode or a normal image display mode;

a second mode change manipulator for selectively changing the operation to a mode where a manipulation on the program information area is rendered active in the electrical program guide display mode, or to a mode where a manipulation on the command area is rendered active in the electrical program guide display mode;

a third mode change manipulator for selectively changing the operation to a mode where a manipulation on the command area is rendered active, or to a mode where a manipulation on the input area is rendered active; and

a cursor motion manipulator adapted for manipulation relative to at least the motion of a cursor or setting of parameters on the program information area, the

command area and the input area.

Sub B2 4. A method of controlling display of an electrical program guide by:

storing, as broadcast program information, the information relative to broadcast programs extracted from predetermined positions of video signals;

storing, as recorded program information, the information relative to the broadcast programs recorded in recording media; and

displaying, as an electrical program guide to provide the program-related information, the program information relative to both of the broadcast programs and the recorded programs on the basis of the stored broadcast program information and also the stored recorded program information.

5. The method according to claim 4, further comprising the step of ^{comprising the step of} simultaneously displaying, as an electrical program guide, at least a program information area in the form of a window to display the program information, a command area in the form of a window to display items for selecting a manipulation command relative to said program guide, and an input area in the form of a window to display items for inputting a required parameter corresponding to the selected manipulation command.

6. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said recorded program information stored in said recorded program information storage means includes the recording start positions of the broadcast programs in said recording media.

7. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said display control means displays the program information relative to both of the broadcast programs and the recorded programs, in a manner to superimpose such information on a normal picture.

8. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said display control means displays the program information relative to both of the broadcast programs and the recorded programs, in a manner to superimpose such information on a fixed picture.

9. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said display control means has a mode to display the program information relative to the broadcast programs on the basis of the broadcast program information stored in said broadcast program storage means; and a mode to display the program information relative to the recorded programs on the basis of the recorded program information stored in said recorded program information storage means.

10. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

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said display control means has a mode to display the program information relative to the entire broadcast programs being broadcast currently or scheduled to be broadcast, on the basis of the broadcast program information stored in said broadcast program storage means; a mode to display the program information relative to the specified broadcast program out of the entire programs being broadcast currently or scheduled to be broadcast, on the basis of the broadcast program information stored in said broadcast program storage means; a mode to display the broadcast information relative to the entire recorded programs on the basis of the recorded program information stored in said recorded program information storage means; and a mode to display the program information relative to the recorded programs in the recording medium specified by a predetermined manipulation, on the basis of the recorded program information stored in said recorded program information storage means.

11. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said display control means is capable of discriminably displaying one area, which is rendered active by said manipulation means, differently from any other area.

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12. The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said display control means displays the mode, which is

currently set, in a portion of said program information area.

13. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein, when said display means is set in the mode to display the program information relative to the entire broadcast programs being broadcast currently or scheduled to be broadcast on the basis of the broadcast program information stored in said broadcast program storage means, the leftward and rightward directions of the direction indicating manipulators of said manipulation means correspond respectively to the preceding time slots before the broadcast time slot of the program being displayed currently, and to the succeeding time slots after the broadcast time slot of the program being displayed currently.

14. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein, when said display means is set in the mode to display the program information relative to the broadcast program specified out of the entire programs being broadcast currently or scheduled to be broadcast on the basis of the broadcast program information stored in said broadcast program storage means, the leftward and rightward directions of the direction indicating manipulators of said manipulation means correspond respectively to the preceding

channels before the program being displayed currently, and to the succeeding channels after the program being displayed currently.

15. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein, when said display means is set in the mode to display the program information relative to the recorded programs in the recording medium specified on the basis of the recorded program information stored in said recorded program information storage means, the leftward and rightward directions of the direction indicating manipulators of said manipulation means correspond respectively to the preceding-numbered recording media before the medium being specified currently, and to the succeeding-numbered recording media after the medium being specified currently.

16. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said display means has a plurality of modes with regard to display of the command area, and displays command icons corresponding to each selected mode.